**Tuberculosis in Orissa**

3704. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing incidents of tuberculosis in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken to eradicate TB in that State;

(c) the details of schemes sponsored by the Centre and the steps taken by Government to implement those schemes in that State; and

(d) the target fixed for eradication of TB from Orissa and other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) The number of TB cases reported in the State of Orissa under the National TB Control Programme have been more or less the same during the last five years.

To control TB, the National TB Control Programme was launched in all the States, including the State of Orissa, in 1962. Under the National TB Control Programme, free of cost diagnosis and treatment facilities, including free supply of anti-TB drugs, are provided to the TB patients.

To achieve a cure rate of at least 85% as against the cure rate of around 40% in the previous Programmes, Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) is being implemented in 14 tribal districts of Orissa in a phased manner, during a period of five years w.e.f. October, 1997 with DANIDA assistance of Rs. 31.95 crores. Service delivery has already started in five districts i.e. Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar, Sundergarh, Deogarh, Jhar Sugda and is expected to start soon in Sambalpur District also.

(d) It is nor possible to fix any target date for eradicaton of TB at this point of time. Efforts, however, will be made to cover the total pupulation of the country under the Revised National TB Control Programme by the end of year 2005 which will help in controlling the problem of TB.

**Ex-Servicemen Radiologists in CHS**

3705. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE:
SHRI ANIL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state: